

Amendment No. 19 to HB1246

**Curtiss
Signature of Sponsor**

AMEND Senate Bill No. 878*

House Bill No. 1246

by deleting all language following the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 24, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 4-24-112.

(a) Any full-time, part-time, or volunteer firefighter hired or accepted as a firefighter on or after July 1, 2009, by a fire department recognized under title 68, chapter 102, part 3, must meet the following minimum training requirements:

(1) The firefighter must have previously completed or must complete after joining the fire department a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of initial training developed by the Tennessee fire service and codes enforcement academy in firefighting procedures and techniques before being allowed to actively fight a fire; and

(2) Within thirty-six (36) months after hire or acceptance date as a firefighter, the firefighter must have completed, or must complete after joining the fire department, the "basic and live firefighting" course offered by the Tennessee fire service and codes enforcement academy, or an equivalent course.

(b) The following firefighters are exempt from the training requirements of subsection (a):

(1) Any firefighter in the fire service on July 1, 2009, and who entered the fire service before June 30, 2004; and

(2) Any firefighter who is certified by a medical doctor as medically or physically unable to complete the training requirements; however, the fire department may not allow these firefighters to engage in active fire fighting operations.

(c) Any firefighter who is certified by the fire department's chief officer that they will not operate within an environment determined to be immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) is exempt from the "live firefighting" portion of the training referenced in subsection (a)(2).

(d) Any firefighter in the fire service on July 1, 2009, and who was hired or accepted as a firefighter between July 1, 2004, and June 30, 2009, has until July 1, 2012, to show proof of completion of the minimum training requirements of this section.

(e) The commission on firefighting personnel standards and education may issue any rules and take any other administrative action necessary to implement this section.

(f) The governmental unit, person, organization, agency or entity which obtained a certificate of recognition from the state fire marshal's office for the fire department is authorized to determine whether it or the firefighter shall be responsible for paying any fees charged for or associated with obtaining the training required under this section.

SECTION 2. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.